



Citizenship and  
Immigration Canada

Citoyenneté et  
Immigration Canada

CA1  
CI  
- L51

O Canada!  
Our home and native  
glorious and free

# A LOOK AT CANADA

Canada

C&I-143-02-01E



## THIS BOOKLET BELONGS TO:

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If you have any comments, please write to:

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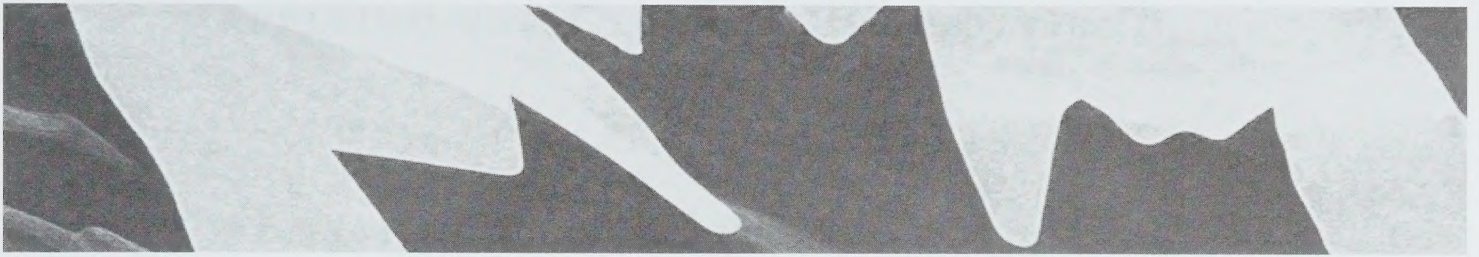
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## MESSAGE TO OUR READERS

**Congratulations! It took courage to decide to move to a new country. And now, your decision to become a Canadian citizen is another big step.**

Becoming a citizen of Canada requires knowing one of our official languages, knowing our history and geography, and knowing the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. It is also about identifying with the character of Canada. Becoming a citizen is about participating in Canada's governmental, social and economic life and accepting, with enthusiasm, your share of responsibility for what Canada will be in the future.

Canadians work hard to nourish a peaceful society in which respect for cultural differences, equality, liberty and freedom of expression is a fundamental value. Canada was created through discussion, negotiation and compromise. These characteristics are as important today as in the past.

We hope you will find this booklet both useful and informative as you proceed along the path to Canadian citizenship.



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## APPLYING FOR CITIZENSHIP

**When you apply for citizenship, officials will check your documents, confirm your immigration status and verify whether or not you have a criminal record. They will also make sure you meet the requirements of citizenship.**

To become a Canadian, you must:

- be 18 years old or older;
- be a permanent resident of Canada who was lawfully admitted to the country;
- have lived in Canada for three of the four years prior to applying for citizenship;
- speak either English or French; and
- know Canada's history, geography, system of government and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.

Your application may take several months to process. Make sure that the Call Centre (see page 32 for telephone numbers) always has your correct address during this time.

The citizenship office will send you a "Notice to Appear" telling you where and when to appear for your citizenship test or your oral interview with a citizenship official.

### **How to use this booklet to prepare for the citizenship test**

This booklet will help you prepare for the citizenship test. We suggest you:

- study this booklet and then ask a friend to help you practise answering questions on the information contained in it;
- call a local school or school board, a college, a community centre or a local organization that provides services to immigrants and ask for information on citizenship classes;
- take advantage of language classes in your community as you will be expected to demonstrate a knowledge of English or French;

- use the questions at the back of the booklet to prepare for the test; and
- find the answers to the questions about the region where you live (page 39).

### **About the citizenship test**

The citizenship test is usually a written test, although in some cases, it might be oral. The test is used to assess whether you meet the language and knowledge requirements. You will be asked questions to check your knowledge and understanding of either English or French. To pass the test, you must also demonstrate an understanding of:

- the right to vote in elections in Canada;
- the right to run for elected office;
- voting procedures in Canada and how to register yourself as a voter.

You will also be asked questions to check your knowledge and understanding about:

- Canada's history
- Canada's geography; and
- the rights and responsibilities of a citizen.

### **After the test**

The citizenship office will inform you about the results of your test. If you are successful, you will receive a "Notice to Appear to Take the Oath of Citizenship" telling you the date, time and place of the citizenship ceremony, the final step in becoming a Canadian citizen. At the ceremony, you will take the Oath of Citizenship, sign the oath form and receive your Canadian Citizenship Certificate. You may want to bring your family and friends with you to share this occasion.



## WHAT DOES CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP MEAN?

Canadian history and traditions have created a country where our values include tolerance and respect for cultural differences, and a commitment to social justice. We are proud of the fact that we are a peaceful nation and that we are accepted in many places around the world as peacekeepers.

As a small population occupying a vast northern land enriched by immigration throughout its history, Canadians have developed a kind of genius for compromise and co-existence which lie at the heart of our federal system of government. We value the fact that we live in a democracy where every citizen is encouraged to do his or her share. Our democratic values are the basis of our laws. Canadian values include:

- **Equality**—We respect everyone's rights, including the right to speak out and express ideas that others might disagree with; governments have to treat everyone with equal dignity and respect, which are both fundamental to our form of democracy.
- **Tolerance**—We try to understand and appreciate the cultures, customs and traditions of our neighbours.

- **Peace**—We are proud of our non-violent society and our international role as peacekeepers.
- **Law and order**—We respect democratic decision making and the “rule of law”; we promote due process so that the courts and the police will treat everyone fairly and reasonably; and we ensure that our elected governments remain accountable to Canadians.

**As you reflect on these values, ask yourself which responsibilities you will take on when you become a Canadian citizen.**





# INTRODUCING CANADA

Throughout Canada's history, millions of immigrants have helped to build this country. Today, Canada, a country with two official languages, welcomes people from more than 150 countries each year.

## KEY WORDS

Official languages

Multiculturalism

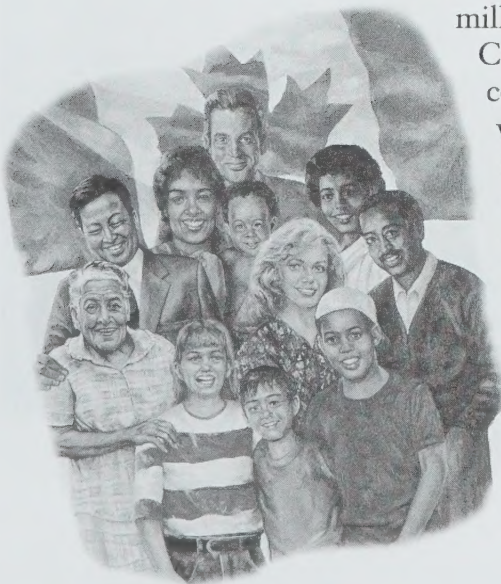
As Canadians, we are proud that many different cultural and ethnic groups live and work here in harmony. The *Canadian Multiculturalism Act* recognizes our cultural diversity and states that we are all free to maintain and share our cultural heritage and to participate fully and equally in our national life.

The only people originally from Canada are the Aboriginal peoples, who lived in Canada for thousands of years before the first immigrants came here. The Aboriginal peoples constitute an important part of Canada's population. They are working to protect and promote their languages, cultures and traditions and to acquire self-government.

In a country as large and diverse as Canada, the idea of equality is very important. We have shown how much we value this idea by having it written into the Constitution as the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

In Canada, we also believe in the importance of working together and helping one another.

People who help others without being paid are called volunteers. There are millions of volunteers across Canada. Some people join community groups and help with local projects. Others help friends and neighbours in need. There are hundreds of different ways you can help others in your community.



## Canada's official languages

English- and French-speaking people have lived together in Canada for more than 300 years, and English and French are Canada's two official languages. Linguistic duality is an important aspect of our Canadian identity—over 98 percent of Canadians speak either English or French or both. You must know either English or French to become a Canadian citizen.

Legal documents like the Canadian Constitution and the *Official Languages Act* protect the rights of individual Canadians with regard to official languages.

For example:

- English and French have equal status in the Parliament of Canada, in federal courts and in all federal institutions;
- Everyone has the right to a criminal trial in either English or French;
- The public has the right, where there is sufficient demand, to receive federal government services in either English or French; and
- Official language minority groups in every province and territory have the right to be educated in their language.



### **Canada's economy**

Canada's economy is based on a combination of many industries. There are three main types of industries in Canada: natural resources, manufacturing and services.

Natural resource industries include forestry, fishing, agriculture, mining and energy. These industries have played an important part in the country's history and development. Today, the economy of many areas of the country still depends on developing natural resources.

Manufacturing industries make products to sell in Canada and around the world. Manufactured products include paper, technological equipment, automobiles, food, clothing and many other goods. Our largest international trading partner is the United States.

Service industries provide thousands of different jobs in areas like transportation, education, health care, construction, banking, communications and government. Over 70 percent of working Canadians now have jobs in service industries.

### **Canada from coast to coast**

Canada is a very large country with an area of 10 million square kilometres, but it has a fairly small population. About 30 million people live here. Most Canadians live in the southern parts of Canada.

### **Provinces and territories**

Canada has 10 provinces and three territories. Each province and territory has its own capital city. You should know the capital of Canada as well as the capital of your province or territory (see pages 12 and 13).



*Automobile manufacturing*



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

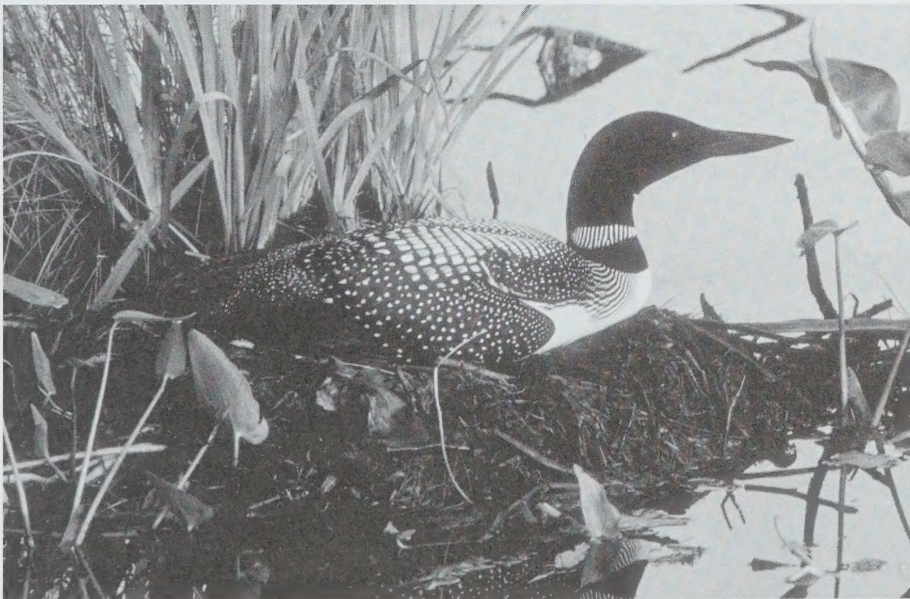
**The Canadian government is committed to sustainable development. Economic growth is crucial for the future of Canada, but it cannot come at the expense of the environment. A healthy environment is important to the quality of life. We want our children to live in a country that is green and prosperous. Citizens must begin now to act in a responsible manner toward the environment.**

Canadian citizenship carries with it a responsibility to actively contribute to the social, economic and environmental well-being of our country. This is a shared responsibility. Both individual and collective action will make it possible to achieve progress toward the goal of sustainable development.

The challenge of learning about and protecting the environment may seem overwhelming. However, we must not forget the damage caused to our environment if it is neglected. Individuals can do simple things every day to protect the environment.

- Throw waste paper or other garbage in designated public garbage containers.
- Recycle and re-use as many products as possible, such as paper, glass and cans.
- Walk, join a car pool, or use a bicycle or public transit whenever possible.
- Get involved with a local group to protect our natural and cultural heritage.

The goal of environmental citizenship is the creation of a society where individuals and groups possess the knowledge and understanding that will lead to responsible environmental action. We are responsible for our environment and for ensuring its protection and maintenance. In assuming this role, we take responsibility for the quality of our own lives and the lives of future generations.



*The common loon*



# CANADA'S HISTORY AND SYMBOLS

## KEY WORDS

**Confederation**

**British North America Act**

**First Prime Minister**



*The beaver is one of the symbols of Canada. It appears on the five-cent coin.*

## Confederation

On July 1, 1867, the provinces we now know as Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia joined together in Confederation to create the new country of Canada. The *British North America Act* of 1867 made this Confederation legal.

As time passed, other provinces and territories joined the Confederation and became part of Canada.

## Dates when provinces and territories joined the Confederation

**1867**

Ontario  
Quebec

Nova Scotia  
New Brunswick

**1870**

Manitoba

Northwest Territories

**1871**

British Columbia

**1873**

Prince Edward Island

**1898**

Yukon Territory

**1905**

Alberta

Saskatchewan

**1949**

Newfoundland

**1999**

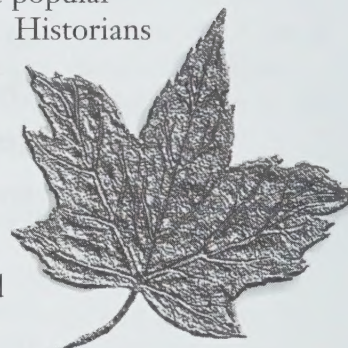
Nunavut



*In 1965, Canada adopted its official red and white flag with the maple leaf. All federal government buildings fly the Canadian flag.*

## The maple leaf

The maple leaf is a popular symbol of Canada. Historians say it was used as a symbol of Canada as early as 1700. You will see it on the one-cent coin, where its design has hardly changed since 1937.



Since February 15, 1965, a red maple leaf has been featured on the national flag of Canada. It has become our most prominent symbol.

## The Parliament buildings

The Parliament buildings are in Ottawa, Ontario, the capital of Canada. The tower in the centre of the buildings is called the Peace Tower.





## KEY WORDS

**Constitution**

•  
**Canadian Charter  
of Rights and  
Freedoms**

•  
**Head of State**

### Canada's first prime minister

In 1867, Sir John A. Macdonald became the first prime minister of Canada. His picture appears on the ten-dollar bill.

### Canada's Constitution

Canada's Constitution is the system of laws and conventions by which our country governs itself. Until 1982, changes to the Constitution had to be approved by the British government. In 1982, the new *Constitution Act* allowed us to change our Constitution without asking the British government's approval. This is the year when the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* became part of the Canadian Constitution.

When did your province or territory join the Confederation?

### Canada Day

Each year on July 1, we celebrate Canada Day, the anniversary of the Confederation.

### The Queen

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is the Queen of Canada and Canada's Head of State. This means that the Queen is the formal head of Canada.



The Governor General is the Queen's representative in Canada. The Queen is also represented in the provinces by lieutenant-governors and in the territories by a commissioner.

### Canada's national anthem

#### O Canada

O Canada! Our home and native land!

True patriot love in all thy sons  
command

With glowing hearts we see thee rise  
The true North strong and free!

From far and wide, O Canada

We stand on guard for thee

God keep our land glorious and free!

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee

O Canada, we stand on guard for thee

## ORIGIN OF THE NAME CANADA

In 1535, two Aboriginal youths used the Huron-Iroquois word "kanata," which means "village" or "settlement," to tell Jacques Cartier the way to Stadacona (site of present-day Québec City). Cartier used "Canada" to refer not only to Stadacona, but also to the entire area subject to Donnacona, Chief at Stadacona. By 1547, the first world map to show the discoveries made on Cartier's second voyage applied the word "Canada" to the area north of the gulf and river St. Lawrence. By 1550, maps were also placing the name south of the river. The first use of "Canada" as an official name came in 1791 when the *Constitutional Act* (or *Canada Act*) divided Québec, then considerably larger, into the provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada. In 1841, they were united to become the Province of Canada. At the time of Confederation, the new country took the name of Canada.



# ABORIGINAL PEOPLES OF CANADA

## KEY WORDS

Inuit

•

First Nations

•

Aboriginal

The Aboriginal peoples were the first people to live in Canada. They had many different spiritual beliefs and cultural traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation.

The Aboriginal peoples lived in every region of the country. Often, their survival in Canada's harsh climate depended on cooperation, sharing and respect for the environment.

The *Constitution Act* of 1982 recognizes three main groups of Aboriginal peoples in Canada: the First Nations (once called "Indians") and the Inuit, who were the first Aboriginal groups in Canada, and the Métis, who emerged after the settlement of Canada. Today, there are more than 53 distinct languages spoken by Aboriginal peoples, most of which are spoken only in Canada.

The people of the First Nations lived in all areas of Canada. Those who lived on Canada's coasts depended on fishing and hunting while those who lived on the Prairies moved with the buffalo herds, which they hunted for food, clothing and tools. The First Nations people who lived in central and eastern Canada hunted and grew vegetable crops. Today, more than half of the First Nations people live on reserves. Others live and work in cities across Canada.

The Inuit lived and settled throughout the northern regions of Canada. They adjusted to the cold northern climate and lived by hunting seals, whales, caribou and polar bears. The majority of Inuit people live in the North today and some still hunt for food and clothing.

Many of the early French fur traders and some English traders married First Nations women. Their descendants are called the Métis people. The Métis, who developed their own distinct culture on the Prairies, played an important role in the fur trade.

When Europeans arrived in what is now Canada, they began to make agreements, or treaties, with the Aboriginal peoples. These treaties granted the Aboriginal people certain rights and benefits in exchange for giving up their title to the land.





Most of the agreements made provision for sections of land, called “reserves,” to be used only by Aboriginal peoples. Today, Aboriginal groups and the Canadian government continue to negotiate new agreements for land and the recognition of other rights.

The Aboriginal peoples of Canada are working to keep their unique cultures and languages alive and to regain control over decisions that affect their lives—in other words, to govern themselves. Aboriginal peoples continue to play an active role in building the future of Canada.





# MAP OF CANADA

Canada is bordered by three oceans: the Pacific Ocean on the west, the Atlantic Ocean on the east, and the Arctic Ocean to the north.

## The regions of Canada

Canada is a country of 10 million square kilometres covering many different geographical areas. These regions may include one or several different provinces.

The regions of Canada are the Atlantic Region, Central Canada, the Prairie Provinces, the West Coast and the North.

## The national capital

The national capital of Canada is Ottawa, Ontario. This is where the federal government and the Parliament buildings are located.

## Provinces and territories

Canada has 10 provinces and three territories. Each province and territory has its own capital city. You should know the capital of Canada as well as the capital of your province or territory.

Region	Province/Territory	Capital
Atlantic Region	Newfoundland	St. John's
	Prince Edward Island	Charlottetown
	Nova Scotia	Halifax
	New Brunswick	Fredericton
Central Canada	Quebec	Québec
	Ontario	Toronto
Prairie Provinces	Manitoba	Winnipeg
	Saskatchewan	Regina
	Alberta	Edmonton
West Coast	British Columbia	Victoria
North	Nunavut	Iqaluit
	Northwest Territories	Yellowknife
	Yukon Territory	Whitehorse

## Population

Canada has a fairly small population. About 30 million people live here. Most Canadians live in the southern parts of Canada.







This map is based on information taken from the National Atlas of Canada Digital Base Maps. Scale: 1:30M.  
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## THE ATLANTIC REGION

**Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland are Canada's Atlantic provinces. The early European explorers first came to this part of Canada to fish and trade with Aboriginal peoples.**

Later, settlers built strong communities that thrived on farming, fishing and shipbuilding.

The region's coastal location and natural resources have made the Atlantic provinces an important part of Canada's history and development.

### **The people**

The people of the First Nations fished and hunted along the Atlantic coast for thousands of years before the French explorer, Jacques Cartier, arrived in the 1500s. In the 1600s, French settlers, who became known as Acadians, were the first Europeans to settle permanently in Canada. Over time, they were joined by settlers from the British Isles and Germany.

During and following the American Revolution (1775-1783), thousands of people left the United States. These people became known as United Empire Loyalists. Many of them chose to settle in the Atlantic region. They were of various ethnic backgrounds, including English, Irish, Scottish, German, Swiss, Dutch, Italian, Jewish, and African-American.

Today, people of many different cultures and ethnic backgrounds continue to live in the Atlantic region. Many are descendants of the earliest arrivals. New Brunswick is the only officially bilingual province in Canada, and about one-third of the population lives and works in French.



*Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia*

*Antigonish, Nova Scotia*





*Millview, Prince Edward Island*



*Re-enactment, Battle of Signal Hill, St. John's, Newfoundland*

### **The economy**

Resource industries, including fishing, farming, forestry and mining, have always played an important role in the economy of the Atlantic region.

The Atlantic fishery is the oldest industry in the region. Protecting the fish stocks and preventing overfishing is now a vital issue in the Atlantic provinces. Today, most manufacturing in the Atlantic region involves processing timber, agricultural crops and fish.

In Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, agricultural crops such as potatoes and fruit are sold as fresh or frozen food products in Canada and to other countries. New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have extensive forests that allow them to produce valuable products like pulp, paper and lumber. Forest products are the most valuable manufacturing industry in New Brunswick. Newfoundland, traditionally dependent on the fishing industry, is developing its other natural resources such as oil, nickel, copper and cobalt.

Service industries are also very important to the Atlantic economy and the majority of people have jobs delivering these services. As in the rest of Canada, more people work in banking, government, and financial and personal services than in traditional resource industries.

The Atlantic Ocean is also important as a tourist resource in the region. The spectacular scenery and the beautiful coastlines and beaches attract thousands of tourists to the Atlantic provinces each year, creating many service industry jobs.



*Fishing at Laverty Falls, Fundy, New Brunswick*



## CENTRAL CANADA

**Central Canada is made up of Ontario and Quebec. More than half the people in Canada live in cities and towns in the southern parts of Quebec and Ontario, close to the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River.**

This area is the industrial and manufacturing heartland of Canada. Together, Ontario and Quebec produce more than three-quarters of all Canadian manufactured goods.

### **The Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence Seaway**

There are five Great Lakes between Canada and the United States, called Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. These lakes have been an important waterway for thousands of years. The Aboriginal peoples and fur traders first used the lakes to create trading networks in North America.

Ships from all over the world reach the Great Lakes from the Atlantic Ocean by way of the St. Lawrence Seaway. The Seaway makes it possible for ocean-going ships to

travel on the St. Lawrence River and the small rivers between the Great Lakes. The Great Lakes also provide freshwater for people and industries around their shores.

### **The Canadian Shield**

The land in northern Quebec and Ontario is part of the Canadian Shield, a rock formation that is millions of years old. Canada is one of the world's leading producers of minerals because of the rich deposits of gold, silver, nickel, zinc, copper and iron ore found in the ancient rock of the Shield.

The Shield is covered by forests, and part of Canada's major pulp and paper industry relies on the trees of this region. Some of the vast freshwater resources of the Shield are used to generate electricity.



*St. Lawrence Seaway*





*Winter Carnival, Québec City*

## **The Province of Quebec**

### **The people**

The first inhabitants of Quebec were the First Nations people and the Inuit. Some of the First Nations people were the first to raise vegetable crops in the fertile lands along the St. Lawrence River. The Aboriginal peoples in this region were fur traders who taught the early settlers how to survive. Today, many Aboriginal communities remain throughout the province.

Settlers from France first established communities along the St. Lawrence River in the early 1600s. Today, Quebec society reflects this heritage.

More than three-quarters of the Canadians who live in Quebec speak French as their first language. Over one-third of the population in Quebec speak both French and English, making it the province with the highest number of bilingual Canadians.

The province preserves and promotes the historic language and culture of its French-speaking citizens.

### **The economy**

The resources of the Canadian Shield have helped Quebec develop important industries, including forestry, energy and mining. Quebec is Canada's main producer of pulp and paper and a major producer of minerals like asbestos, gold, copper, silver and iron ore.

The province's huge supply of freshwater has allowed it to become Canada's largest producer of hydroelectricity.

The lowland areas of the St. Lawrence are a fertile farming region where vegetables, fruit and feed crops are grown. Dairy farms are common, and Quebec has the largest dairy farming industry in Canada.

Quebec's many provincial parks, Laurentian mountains and historic sites play an important role in its tourism industry.

The region around Montréal has been an important financial, service and industrial centre since Confederation. Workers produce fabric, clothing, food, paper, metal, and chemical and wood products. Montréal is also the centre of a vast transportation network and many transportation companies are located in this region, including more than half of Canada's aeronautics and space industry.



*Place Jacques-Cartier,  
Montréal, Quebec*



## The Province of Ontario

### The people

About one-third of all Canadians live in Ontario. Although most people in Ontario speak English, the province also has the most French-speaking citizens of all the provinces except Quebec.

The Algonquin and Iroquois First Nations were the earliest people to live in the province we now know as Ontario. By the late 1700s, the population began to grow rapidly. The arrival of thousands of United Empire Loyalists was followed by waves of other newcomers from the United States and Britain. Newcomers from all over the world continue to settle in Ontario.



*Algonquin Provincial Park*

### The economy

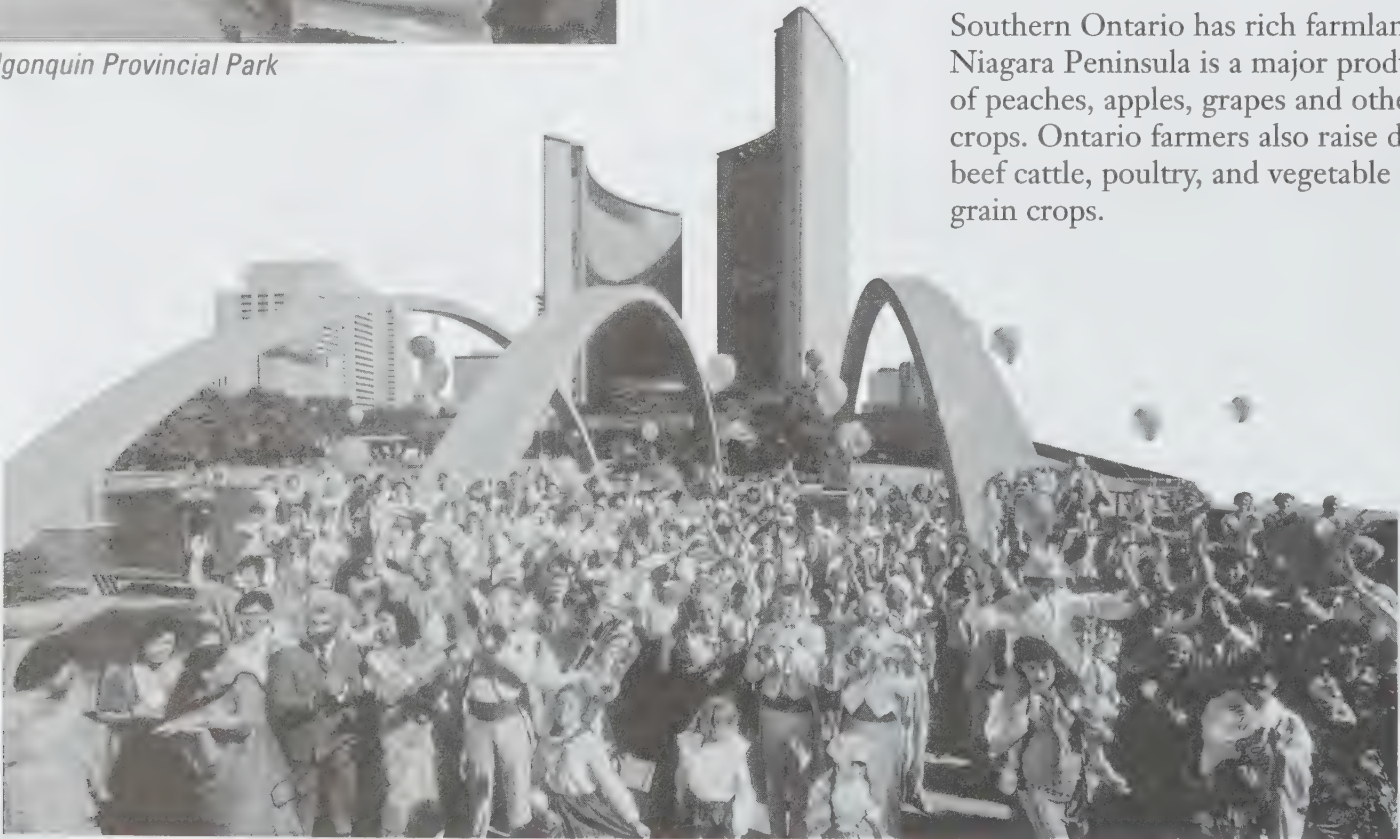
Throughout Canada's history, the large population, rich resources and strategic location of Ontario have helped the province build a powerful economy. The majority of people work in the service and manufacturing industries.

In southern Ontario, the auto industry produces cars, auto parts and other transportation equipment. Products from the auto industry are among Canada's key exports. Other manufactured goods include steel, machinery, metal, plastic and chemical products, and food.

Ontario mines are the biggest producers of metal in Canada. These metals include nickel, gold, silver, platinum, uranium, zinc and copper.

Ontario's forestry industry produces pulp, lumber, newsprint and other paper products. The province's numerous rivers are a vital source of electric power. In Ontario, Niagara Falls is a well-known example of water power that generates electricity.

Southern Ontario has rich farmland. The Niagara Peninsula is a major producer of peaches, apples, grapes and other fruit crops. Ontario farmers also raise dairy and beef cattle, poultry, and vegetable and grain crops.



*Toronto City Hall*

# THE PRAIRIE PROVINCES



*Traditionally dressed  
Aboriginal youth at  
Calgary Stampede*

Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta are called the Prairie provinces. This region of Canada is known for its fertile agricultural land and valuable energy resources.

## The Prairies

The Prairies are flat plains that stretch across the southern part of the region. This area has few trees and very fertile soil. Most of what was open grasslands is now used for farming, particularly grain crops, and for raising cattle.

The Prairie region, however, is not all flat farmland. The northern and western parts of the region include gently rolling hills, valleys and rivers. In southern Alberta, the open prairies gradually rise to meet the Rocky Mountains along the border of British Columbia.

## The people

The First Nations people, the earliest inhabitants of the Prairies, were skilled buffalo hunters. Their descendants and the Métis people became important suppliers, traders, guides and interpreters for the fur trade.

French-speaking people have lived in the Prairie provinces since the early days of the fur trade. Descendants of these early settlers still live in the Prairie region.



*Fly-in fishing  
Northern Manitoba*



*Farming on  
the Prairies*



*Legislative Building in Regina, Saskatchewan*



During the late 1800s, the Canadian government built a railway across the Prairies to the Pacific coast that made immigration to western Canada much easier. In the early 1900s, about three million people came to the Prairies from Europe and Britain. Many settled on land that the government offered at cheap prices to encourage settlement in the West.

### **The economy**

As in the rest of Canada, the majority of people in the Prairie provinces work in service industries.

Manitoba's manufacturing industries produce a variety of goods, including food, machinery, transportation equipment, metal products and clothing. In Saskatchewan, the most important manufacturing industries produce food and chemical products.

### **Agriculture**

The Prairies have some of the most fertile farmland in the world. Prairie farmers and ranchers produce grains (such as wheat), meat and other food products for markets in Canada and other countries. In Manitoba, the agricultural industry benefits from high rainfall and farmers produce a wide variety of grain crops and livestock. Saskatchewan, the leading wheat producer in Canada, is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world. Alberta leads the country in beef cattle and feed grain production.

### **Energy resources**

The Prairies are rich in energy resources. About one-half of all the energy used in Canada comes from oil and natural gas. Alberta is the country's major producer of these fuels. Alberta also has an important coal mining industry. Saskatchewan is a large producer of oil, natural gas, uranium and potash. Manitoba, known as the Land of 100,000 Lakes, is the most important source of hydroelectric power in the Prairie region.

*Stampede  
Morris, Manitoba*



*Cattle ranching in Alberta*



*Pysanka Festival, Vegreville, Alberta*



# THE WEST COAST

**British Columbia, on the Pacific Ocean, is known for its majestic mountains. There are three major mountain ranges in the province: the Rocky Mountains, the Columbia Mountains, and the Coast Mountains.**

## **The people**

The First Nations people on Canada's West Coast developed a unique form of art, best known as totem poles. Their art often represents whales, fish, bears and other animals.

British Columbia was settled by Europeans when the fur trade spread to the west in the early 1800s. In the late 1800s, thousands of Chinese came to British Columbia to help build the final section of the Canadian Pacific Railway. Many of their descendants still live in the province.

Today, the population of British Columbia includes many people from Asia and other parts of the world.

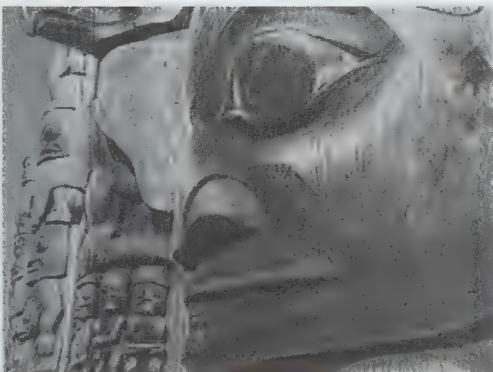
## **The economy**

British Columbia's rich natural resources have always been important to the economy. The province has the most valuable forestry industry in Canada. About one-half of all the goods produced in British Columbia are forestry products.

Heavy rainfall and steep mountain slopes in the province create ideal conditions for generating electricity, and British Columbia is Canada's second largest producer of hydroelectric power.

Salmon fishing is also a valuable industry on the West Coast and Pacific salmon are sold all over the world. The famous fruit orchards of the Okanagan Valley lie between the mountain ranges in the central area of the province.

The natural beauty of the West Coast brings thousands of tourists to the province to fish, hike, camp and ski in the mountains.



*Totem poles*



*Vancouver is the third largest city in Canada. It provides important shipping and air links between Canada and other countries across the Pacific Ocean, such as China and Japan.*

## THE NORTH

Canada's northern region is divided into the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Together, they cover more than one-third of Canada. The Canadian government is responsible for the territories but elected legislatures make decisions on most issues. The people in the Northwest Territories voted to make the eastern region into a separate territory called Nunavut, which came into existence on April 1, 1999.

### The people

The North is a vast land area but has a small population. More than half of the people who live in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut and about one-quarter of the Yukon's population are Aboriginal peoples. In recognition of this fact, the territorial governments have given several Aboriginal languages the same official status as English and French.

### The economy

Europeans first came to the North in the late 1600s because of the fur trade. The Hudson's Bay Company controlled the northern lands and fur trade for 300 years. Some northern people, including many Aboriginal peoples, still earn money and obtain food through hunting and trapping.

Mining, oil and gas are very important to the northern economy. Thousands of miners first came to the Yukon during the Gold Rush at the end of the 1800s. There are gold, lead and zinc mines in the territories today. Oil and gas deposits are being developed and people continue to explore for more of these valuable resources.

Inuit prints and soapstone carvings are sold throughout Canada and the world. In the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, a large number of Aboriginal people produce Aboriginal arts and crafts and many work in co-operative businesses for this purpose.

### The climate

The North is sometimes called the "Land of the Midnight Sun." At the height of summer, the daylight can last up to 24 hours. During the brief summers, the land blossoms. Winters in the North are long, cold and dark. The Yukon holds the record for the coldest temperature ever recorded in Canada ( $-63^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).



*Baker Lake, Nunavut*



# GOVERNMENT IN CANADA

There are three levels of government in Canada: federal, provincial or territorial, and municipal (or local). The responsibilities of federal and provincial governments were first defined in 1867 in the *British North America Act*.

In general, the federal government takes major responsibility for matters that affect all of Canada. These include national defence, foreign policy and citizenship.

Provincial and territorial governments look after such matters as education, health care and highways. They share responsibilities with the federal government in some areas.

The municipal (or local) governments of each city or community are responsible for matters such as policing, firefighting, snow removal and recycling programs. Canadian citizens can vote in elections for all three levels of government.

## The Parliament of Canada

Canada is a democracy and has a system of parliamentary government. Parliament has three parts: the Queen, the House of Commons and the Senate.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II is our Head of State. The Governor General of Canada is the Queen's representative in Canada.

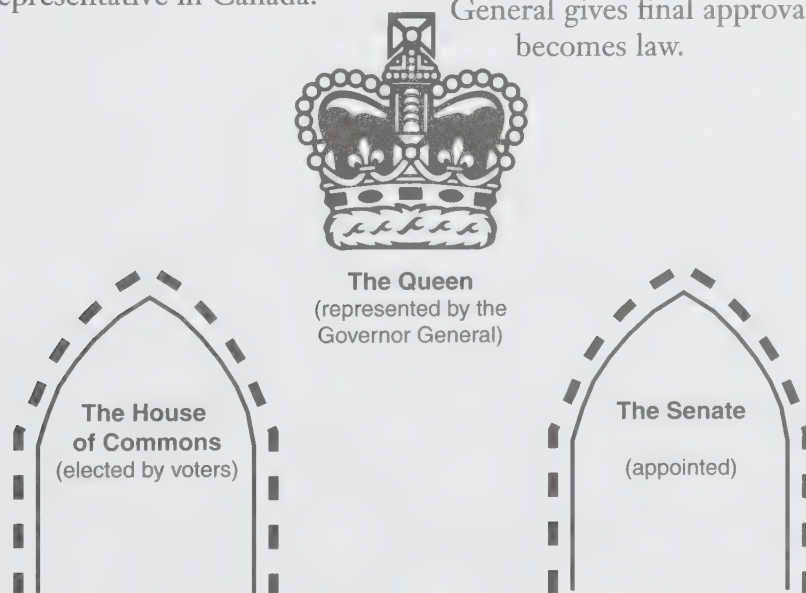
Canadians elect representatives to the House of Commons. The elected representatives are called members of Parliament (or MPs). The people who serve in the Senate are chosen by the Prime Minister and appointed by the Governor General. They are called senators.

The Prime Minister is the leader of the political party with the most elected members of Parliament sitting in the House of Commons.

## Making laws

When the government proposes a new law to Parliament, it is called a bill. MPs and senators have several opportunities to debate each new bill in the House of Commons and the Senate. Then the MPs and senators vote on the bill.

To become law, a bill must be approved by majorities in the House of Commons and in the Senate. Once a majority of MPs and senators have approved a bill, the Governor General gives final approval and the bill becomes law.



## OTHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT IN CANADA

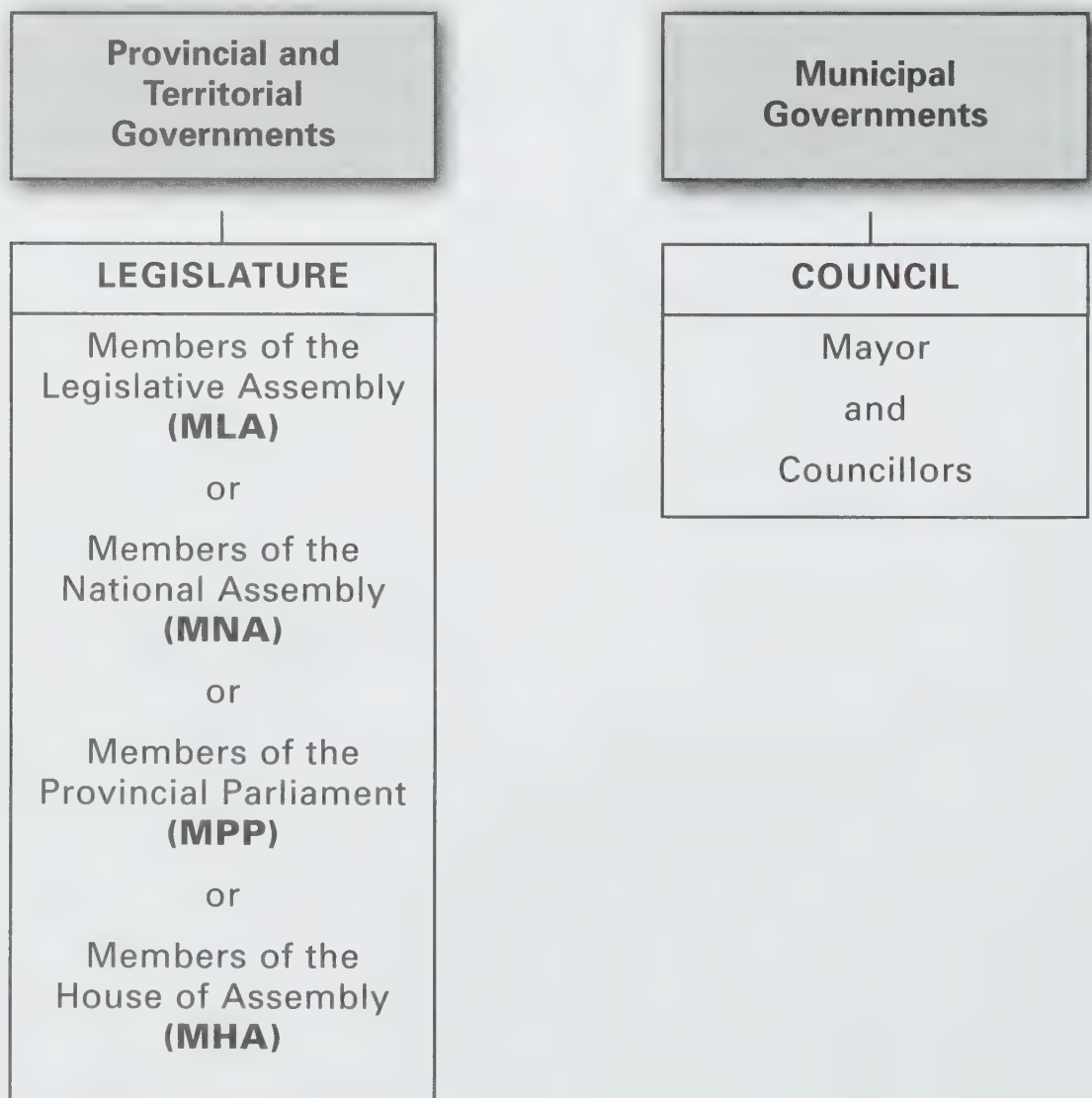
**Each provincial and territorial government has an elected legislature where provincial and territorial laws are passed.**

The members of the legislature are called members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), members of the National Assembly (MNAs), members of the Provincial Parliament (MPPs), or members of the House of Assembly (MHAs) depending on the province or territory.

In the provinces, lieutenant-governors represent the Queen. In the territories, commissioners represent the Queen.

Municipal governments usually have a council that passes laws (called by-laws) affecting the local community. The council includes a mayor and other elected representatives, often called councillors.

Provincial, territorial and municipal elections are held by secret ballot but the rules are not the same as those for federal elections. It is important to find out the rules for voting in provincial, territorial and local elections so that you can exercise your right to vote.





# DO YOU KNOW CANADA'S FORM OF GOVERNMENT?

Use this page to list the names of your government representatives and other important information.

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## Federal Government

Head of State: the representative of the Queen for all Canada is the **Governor General**:

Head of government in power: the **Prime Minister** is:

The **party in power** is:

The **Leader of the Opposition** is:

The **Official Opposition** is:

The other **opposition parties** and **leaders** are:

My **representative in Ottawa (MP)** is:

My **electoral district** is:

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## Provincial Government

Head of State: the representative of the Queen for my province is the **Lieutenant-Governor**:

Head of the government: The **Premier** is:

The **provincial party in power** is:

The **provincial opposition parties** and **leaders** are:

My **provincial representative** is:

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## Municipal (Local) Government

The name of the municipality where I live is:

The head of the municipal government (Mayor or Reeve) is:

## FEDERAL ELECTIONS

**Canadians vote in elections for the people they want to represent them in Parliament. With each election, the people may reelect the same members of Parliament or choose new ones.**

Federal elections are usually held every four years. The Prime Minister may ask the Governor General to call an earlier election. According to Canada's Constitution, an election must be held within five years of the last election.

Canada is divided into 301 electoral districts. An electoral district is a geographical area represented by a member of the House of Commons. The citizens of each electoral district elect one member of Parliament who sits in the House of Commons.

Any Canadian citizen who is at least 18 years old can run in a federal election. The people who run for office are called candidates. There can be many candidates in an electoral district.

The people in each electoral district vote for the candidate of their choice. The candidate who receives the most votes becomes the MP for that electoral district.

An elected MP represents everyone who lives in his or her electoral district, even the people who did not vote for the MP. Your MP is your link to the federal government. Your MP helps you by:

- representing your ideas when new laws are being proposed;
- asking questions about the government on your behalf; and
- helping you if you need information from the government or if you have any problems with the government.

It is easy to contact your MP. To find his or her name, look in the blue pages of the telephone book under "Government of Canada." Call the toll-free number under "Information on the Government of Canada." Give your address to the information officer who answers your call and he or she will give you the name and telephone number of your MP.

Your MP has an office in your electoral district. You can also write to your MP by sending your letter to:

House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

You should be aware that letters sent to MPs in Ottawa do not need stamps.

### Political parties

Most candidates in federal elections belong to a political party. A political party is a group of people who share ideas about how the government should work. Some political parties have been around for a long time but Canadians can create new political parties at any time.

Members of political parties hold meetings where they discuss their ideas and opinions. They develop plans for what they would do if their candidates were elected to form the government. The plans they make are called the party platform.



*House of Commons*



Members of political parties help to:

- decide on the party platform;
- choose the party leader;
- choose the party's candidates; and
- campaign for party candidates in elections.

Candidates who do not belong to a political party are called independents.

## Voting

One of the privileges and responsibilities of Canadian citizenship is the right to vote. Elections Canada is the non-partisan agency of Parliament responsible for conducting federal elections and referendums.

You can vote in a federal election or cast a ballot in a federal referendum if you are:

- a Canadian citizen and
- at least 18 years old.

The voters lists used during federal elections and referendums are produced from the National Register of Electors, a permanent database of Canadian citizens 18 years of age and older, qualified to vote in federal elections.

The National Register of Electors contains the name, address, sex and date of birth of each qualified elector. Elections Canada updates the National Register of Electors through existing data sources, including additions from Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

It is important that your name be added to the National Register of Electors as soon as your citizenship is granted and you become eligible to vote.

When you apply for citizenship, you have the opportunity to check a box on the application to indicate your consent to the transfer of your name, address, sex and date

of birth to Elections Canada. Only the data given by new Canadians who have indicated this consent are transmitted to Elections Canada. The information can be used only for electoral purposes. Even if you choose not to be listed, you still have the right to vote. Your name can be added to the voters list right up to election day.

Once an election has been called, Elections Canada mails a Notice of Confirmation of Registration card to each elector whose name is in the National Register of Electors. The notice tells you when and where to vote. If you require an interpreter or other special services, it tells you the number to call.

Even if you do not receive a Notice of Confirmation of Registration card, you can still be added to the list right up to election day. For information on how to do this, contact Elections Canada. During an election period, your local newspaper will print the telephone number for the Elections Canada office in your electoral district. If you cannot find the number, call Elections Canada toll-free at 1-800-463-6868 or 1-800-Info-vote.

To vote either on election day or at advance polls, go to the polling station listed on your Notice of Confirmation of Registration card. An election official will give you a ballot. The ballot lists the names of the candidates in your electoral district in alphabetical order.

Mark the ballot by writing an "X" in the circle beside the name of your chosen candidate. Next, fold the ballot so that no one can see your vote. Then, either put the ballot in the ballot box or ask the election official to do it for you.

Canada's election laws say that your vote is secret. This means that no one can watch you vote and no one should look at your marked ballot. You may choose to discuss how you voted with others, but no one has the right to insist that you tell them how you voted.

Immediately after the polling stations close, election officials count the ballots, and the results are announced on radio and television, and in the newspapers.

### **After an election**

After an election, the party with the most elected representatives becomes the party in power. The leader of this party becomes the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister and the party in power run the government as long as they have the support of the majority of the Members of Parliament (MPs), in the House of Commons.

The Prime Minister chooses several MPs to become Cabinet ministers. Cabinet ministers are responsible for running the federal government departments. The Prime Minister and the Cabinet ministers are called the Cabinet, and they make important decisions about how to run the country. They also propose most new laws. Their decisions can be questioned by all MPs in the House of Commons.

If a majority of the MPs vote against a major government decision, the party in power is defeated. The Prime Minister resigns and a new election is usually held.

The parties that are not in power are called the Opposition parties. The Opposition party with the most MPs is the Official Opposition. The role of the Opposition parties is to oppose or try to improve government proposals.

### **Voting Procedure**

- 1** Data from the National Register of Electors is used to produce the list of electors.
- 2** The Confirmation of Registration card confirms that your name is on the list of electors.
- 3** If you do not receive a Confirmation of Registration card, call the Elections Canada office for your electoral district.
- 4** If you need to, you can vote in advance at the advance polls or by special ballot.
- 5** On election day, go to your polling station. You will be given a ballot paper.
- 6** You vote by secret ballot.
- 7** Mark an "X" in the circle to the right of the name of the candidate you prefer.
- 8** You or an election official will put your secret ballot in the ballot box.
- 9** The ballots are counted and the results are announced to the public.



**The Canadian justice system guarantees every Canadian resident political and legal rights and equality. Every Canadian, whether a citizen or a landed immigrant, has equal access to the justice system.**

Canadians have rights and freedoms that are protected under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* through the justice system. Some of the rights and freedoms protected by the judicial system include:

- **Fundamental freedoms**—like freedom of religion, thought, belief, opinion and expression;
- **Legal rights**—like the right to life, liberty and security of the person; and
- **Equality under the law**—every Canadian has an equal right to the protection and services of the police and the courts.

Lawyers can help you with your problems and act for you in court. If you cannot pay for a lawyer, there are legal aid services available free of charge or at low cost in most communities.



## CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**All Canadians have certain rights and responsibilities that are based on Canadian laws, traditions and shared values.**

The *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* is the part of the Constitution that legally protects the basic rights and freedoms of all Canadians. Some of these rights and freedoms are:

- democratic rights, such as the right to vote;
- legal rights, such as the right to a fair trial;
- equality rights, such as the right to protection against discrimination;
- mobility rights, such as the right to live and work anywhere in Canada;
- Aboriginal peoples' rights; and
- basic freedoms, such as freedom of thought, freedom of speech, and freedom of peaceful assembly.

Some citizenship rights are defined in Canadian laws, such as the right to be considered first (given preference) for jobs in the federal government.

Many of these rights and freedoms existed in earlier laws. However, with the creation of the Charter in 1982, they became better defined and better protected.

Having these rights brings responsibilities for everyone in Canada. Individual Canadians and Canadian governments have the responsibility to respect the rights and freedoms of all Canadians. However, it is important to realize that the rights of a single Canadian or a group of Canadians cannot interfere with the rights of any other. For this reason, courts must interpret the Charter from time to time to be sure that it is applied fairly in all situations.



*Proud new Canadian with her citizenship papers, Lethbridge, Alberta*



## Citizenship rights

Under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, Canadian citizens are guaranteed the right to:

- be a candidate in federal, provincial and territorial elections;
- be educated in either official language;
- apply for a Canadian passport;
- vote in federal, provincial and territorial elections; and
- enter and leave Canada freely.

Citizenship also brings responsibilities. For example, voting in elections is both a right and a responsibility. Before you read the next section, review the list of rights and try to think of the responsibilities that come with them.

## Citizenship responsibilities

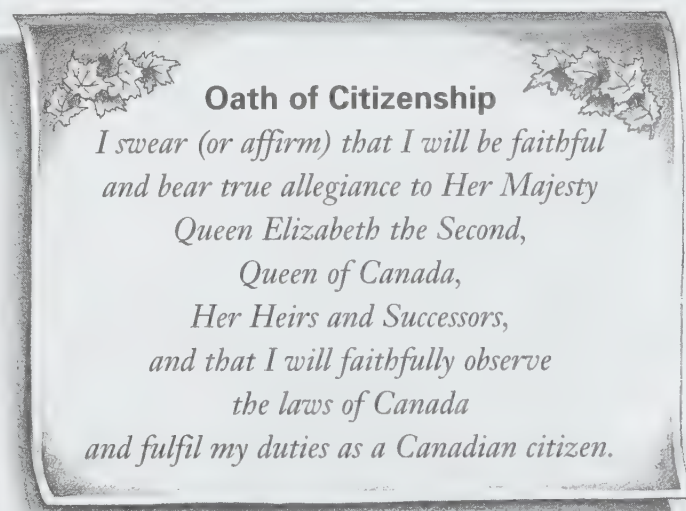
As Canadian citizens, we share the responsibility to:

- vote in elections;
- help others in the community;
- care for and protect our heritage and environment;
- obey Canada's laws;
- express opinions freely while respecting the rights and freedoms of others; and
- eliminate discrimination and injustice.

## Getting involved in Canada

Being a Canadian citizen is more than voting and obeying laws. Being a citizen also means getting involved in your community and your country. Everyone has something to give to make Canada a better place. Here are some ways to participate:

- Join a community group such as an environmental group.
- Volunteer to work on an election campaign for a candidate of your choice.
- Help your neighbours.
- Work with others to solve problems in your community.
- Become a candidate in an election.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Canadian citizenship

- Obtain a copy of the pamphlet *How to Become a Canadian Citizen* and other citizenship application information by telephone:

Call Centre Numbers:

In **Montréal** (514) 496-1010

In **Toronto** (416) 973-4444

In **Vancouver** (604) 666-2171

For all other areas **within** Canada, call 1 (888) 242-2100 (toll-free).

**Note:** If you are calling from outside Canada, contact the Canadian embassy, high commission or consulate in your region.

On-line

Visit the Citizenship and Immigration Web site at <http://www.cic.gc.ca>.

### Citizenship classes

- Contact schools and colleges in your area.
- Go to your local library or community centre.
- Contact local settlement agencies or ethnocultural associations.

### Canada

Ask a librarian to help you find books and videotapes about Canada. You could begin by asking for these books:

- *The Canada Yearbook* (published by Statistics Canada)
- *Canada: A Portrait* (published by Statistics Canada)
- *How Canadians Govern Themselves* (written by Eugene Forsey, published by Public Works and Government Services Canada)
- *The Canadian Encyclopedia* (published by McClelland and Stewart)
- *The Junior Encyclopedia of Canada* (published by Hurtig Publishers, distributed by McClelland and Stewart)
- *The Story of Canada* (written by Janet Lunn and Christopher Moore, published by Lester Publishing Ltd.)
- *Symbols of Nationhood* (published by Public Works and Government Services Canada)

### Federal programs and services

- Contact the Information on the Government of Canada at:

1 800 O-Canada

(1 800 622-6232)

TTY 1 800 465-7735

<http://www.canada.gc.ca>





# CITIZENSHIP TEST: QUESTIONS

**The questions in the citizenship test are based on information provided in this publication.**

The test will ask you questions about Canada's electoral (voting) process, its government structure, Confederation, Canada's main historical and geographical features and the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. You should also be prepared to answer more specific questions about your region's economy, geography and history. Use the questions that follow to prepare for your test. All answers can be found in this publication, except for Section II below, which pertains to your particular region, and the information required on page 25, which you will need to obtain on your own.

## **Section I. Questions about Canada**

1. Who are the Aboriginal peoples of Canada?
2. What are the three main groups of Aboriginal peoples?
3. In which parts of Canada did the Aboriginal peoples first live?
4. What did the Aboriginal peoples living in your region depend on for survival?
5. From whom are the Métis descended?
6. In what industry did the Métis first work with European settlers?
7. Which group of Aboriginal peoples make up more than half the population of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut?
8. Why are the Aboriginal peoples of Canada working toward self-government?
9. Where did the first European settlers in Canada come from?
10. Why did the early explorers first come to Atlantic Canada?
11. Who are the Acadian people?
12. What three industries helped the early settlers build communities in the Atlantic region?
13. Who were the United Empire Loyalists?
14. When did the United Empire Loyalists come to Canada?
15. When did settlers from France first establish communities on the St. Lawrence River?
16. In which type of industry did most early European settlers work?
17. Which trade spread across Canada, making it important to the economy for over 300 years?
18. What form of transportation did Aboriginal peoples and fur traders use to create trading networks in North America?
19. How long did the Hudson's Bay Company control the northern lands?

20. What important trade did the Hudson's Bay Company control?
21. When did thousands of miners first come to the Yukon?
22. What did the government do to make immigration to western Canada much easier?
23. Which group of people were important in the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway?
24. When was the Canadian Pacific Railway finished?
25. What did the federal government do to encourage people to settle in the Prairie provinces during the early 1900s?
26. What does Confederation mean?
27. What is the Canadian Constitution?
28. In what year did Canada become a country?
29. Which document made Confederation legal?
30. Which document first defined the responsibilities of the federal and provincial governments?
31. When did the *British North America Act* come into effect?
32. Why is the *British North America Act* important in Canadian history?
33. Which four provinces first formed the Confederation?
34. List each province and territory and tell when each one joined the Confederation.
35. Which was the last province to join Canada?
36. When is Canada Day and what does it celebrate?
37. Who was the first prime minister of Canada?
38. Why is the *Constitution Act* of 1982 important in Canadian history?
39. What part of the Constitution legally protects the basic rights and freedoms of all Canadians?
40. When did the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* become part of the Canadian Constitution?
41. Name two fundamental freedoms protected by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.
42. Name three legal rights protected by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.
43. List four rights Canadian citizens have.
44. List three ways in which you can protect the environment.
45. Who has the right to apply for a Canadian passport?
46. Who has the right to enter and leave Canada at will?
47. Who has the right to be considered first for a job in the federal government?



48. What does equality under the law mean?
49. What does “mobility rights” mean?
50. Name six responsibilities of citizenship.
51. Give an example of how you can care for Canada’s natural heritage.
52. What will you promise when you take the Oath of Citizenship?
53. Explain how a citizenship right can also be seen as a citizenship responsibility—for example, the right to vote.
54. Give an example of how you can show responsibility by participating in your community.
55. Which legal document recognizes the cultural diversity of Canadians?
56. What are the two official languages of Canada?
57. Which legal documents protect the rights of Canadians with regard to official languages?
58. Give an example of where English and French have equal status in Canada.
59. Where do most French-speaking Canadians live?
60. Which province has the most bilingual Canadians?
61. Which province is the only officially bilingual province?
62. What does the Canadian flag look like?
63. What song is Canada’s national anthem?
64. Give the first two lines of Canada’s national anthem.
65. Where does the name “Canada” come from?
66. Which animal is an official symbol of Canada?
67. What is the tower in the centre of the Parliament buildings called?
68. What unique art form was developed by the First Nations people on the West Coast?
69. Why is the North sometimes called the “Land of the Midnight Sun”?
70. An act of Parliament was required to create a new territory in Canada’s North. What is the name of the new territory?
71. What is the population of Canada?
72. What three oceans border on Canada?
73. How many provinces and territories are there in Canada?
74. What is the capital city of Canada?
75. Name all the provinces and territories and their capital cities.
76. Name the five regions of Canada.
77. What are the provinces of Central Canada?
78. What are the provinces of the Atlantic Region?
79. What are the Prairie provinces?

80. What are the territories of northern Canada?
81. Name one province that is on the Atlantic coast of Canada.
82. Name a province on the Pacific coast of Canada.
83. Which region covers more than one-third of Canada?
84. Where do more than half the people in Canada live?
85. One-third of all Canadians live in which province?
86. What is the Canadian Shield?
87. Where is the Canadian Shield?
88. Where are the Canadian Rockies?
89. Where are the Great Lakes?
90. What are the names of the Great Lakes?
91. Where is the St. Lawrence Seaway?
92. Name two mountain ranges in Canada.
93. Which territory shares a border with another country?
94. Which province is known as the "Land of 100,000 Lakes"?
95. Which provinces are joined to New Brunswick by land?
96. To which ocean is Newfoundland closest?
97. Which mountain range forms a border between Alberta and British Columbia?
98. Which two provinces are closest to Prince Edward Island?
99. Which province in Canada is the smallest in land size?
100. Where are the Parliament buildings located?
101. Which country borders Canada on the south?
102. What are the three main types of industries in Canada?
103. In what sorts of jobs do most Canadians work?
104. What country is Canada's largest trading partner?
105. Why are the Great Lakes important to Canada?
106. Why is the St. Lawrence Seaway important to Canada?
107. Why is the Canadian Shield important to Canada's economy?
108. List four important minerals found in the Canadian Shield.
109. Which province is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the world?
110. Which region is known as the industrial and manufacturing heartland of Canada?



111. Which region of Canada is known for both its fertile agricultural land and valuable energy resources?
112. Which two provinces produce more than three-quarters of Canadian manufactured goods?
113. Which province is the biggest producer of metals in Canada?
114. Which province is Canada's main producer of pulp and paper?
115. Which province has the largest dairy farming industry in Canada?
116. Which province has the most valuable forest industry in Canada?
117. Which province is Canada's major producer of oil and gas?
118. Which province is Canada's leading wheat producer?
119. Which province is Canada's largest producer of hydroelectricity?
120. Which two fuels provide about one-half of all the energy used in Canada?
121. Which products from southern Ontario are among Canada's key exports?
122. Name three minerals still being mined in the territories today.
123. Which city provides important shipping and air links between Canada and other countries across the Pacific Ocean?
124. What products are produced in the Niagara Peninsula?
125. More than half of Canada's aeronautics and space industries are located in which province?
126. For what is the Okanagan Valley famous?
127. What fish is a valuable industry on the West Coast?
128. Who is Canada's Head of State?
129. Who is the Queen's representative in Canada?
130. What is the name of the Governor General?
131. What do you call the Queen's representative in the provinces and territories?
132. What is Canada's system of government called?
133. What are the three parts of Parliament?
134. What are the three levels of government in Canada?
135. Explain how the three levels of government are different.
136. Name two levels of government and explain how they are different.
137. Name two responsibilities for each level of government.
138. What do you call a law before it is passed?
139. How does a bill become a law?

140. What is the final step before a bill becomes a law?
141. What do the initials MP stand for in Canadian politics?
142. How are members of Parliament chosen?
143. Who do members of Parliament represent?
144. What does a member of Parliament do?
145. What is an “electoral district”?
146. How many electoral districts are there in Canada?
147. In what electoral district do you live?
148. What four requirements must you meet in order to vote in a federal election?
149. What is a Notice of Confirmation of Registration?
150. What is a polling station?
151. What is a ballot?
152. What is written on an election ballot?
153. What do you mark on a federal election ballot?
154. What does voting by secret ballot mean?
155. Who has the right to vote in federal elections?
156. Who has the right to run as a candidate in federal elections?
157. Who do Canadians vote for in a federal election?
158. How is the government formed after an election?
159. How is the prime minister chosen?
160. When does an election have to be held according to the Constitution?
161. What do political parties do?
162. What does “party platform” mean?
163. Name all the federal political parties represented in the House of Commons and their leaders.
164. Which federal political party is in power?
165. To which party does your member of Parliament belong?
166. What does it mean for a political party to “be in power”?
167. What are the parties that are not in power called?
168. Which party becomes the Official Opposition?
169. What is the role of the Opposition parties?
170. Which party is the Official Opposition at the federal level?
171. What is a political candidate?
172. What do you call a candidate who does not belong to a political party?
173. What is a Cabinet minister?



174. How are senators chosen?
175. How can a party in power be defeated in Parliament?
176. What is the name of the Prime Minister of Canada?
177. What is the name of your member of Parliament?
178. How can you contact your member of Parliament?
179. Who do provincial members of the legislative or national assemblies represent?
180. What level of government passes "by-laws"?

## **Section II. Questions about your region**

181. When did settlers from Europe first come to your region?
182. Who were the first settlers in the area where you live?
183. Why did the early Europeans come to your region in the 1600s, 1700s, 1800s or early 1900s?
184. What is the capital city of the province or territory in which you live?
185. What are the major industries of your city, province and region today?
186. What is the most valuable manufacturing industry in your region today?

187. List three minerals found in your region.
188. List three natural resources important to your region's economy today.
189. List the activities that are important to the tourism industry in your region.
190. What has always been important to the economy in your region?
191. Who is your city councillor, alderperson, reeve or regional councillor?
192. What is the name of your mayor?
193. What is the name of your provincial representative (member of the Legislative Assembly, member of the provincial Parliament, member of the National Assembly or member of the House of Assembly)?

194. What is the name of the premier of your province?
195. Which political party is in power in your province or territory?
196. What is the name of the leader of the Opposition in your province?
197. What is the name of your lieutenant-governor or commissioner?

**These questions have been developed as a study guide. You may be asked questions similar to these when you undergo your citizenship test.**





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